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FILE: BALLOON GENERAL

24 January 1958

(RETURN PROPOSALS TO OEW)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Universal Carrier and Demand Ballast System - [REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] in a proposal dated 18 October 1957, submitted an estimate of \$5,940.28 for a "Multi-Level Trajectory Balloon System Design". The proposal was accepted even though it did not seem likely that such a project would be undertaken in the immediate future. It did, however, serve the purpose of committing funds to a company which has a good record of servicing TSS/ED balloon requirements with a minimum of red-tape and at a very reasonable cost. Inasmuch as there are continuing requests for balloon performance data and/or equipment which come in from the operating divisions periodically, it was felt that the existence of the authority to spend this \$6,000 (whether it be on the trajectory problem or on other tasks) would facilitate meeting the balloon requirements placed on or initiated by TSS/ED.

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2. Within the past week there have been three separate tasks come up, the servicing of which will largely expend the \$6,000. They are described below:

- (a) Requirement from SR for a ballast hepper for altitude control of a released (step-out) 343P balloon. This requirement is described in detail in a letter from the undersigned to [REDACTED] dated 15 January 1958.
- (b) TSS/ED recognition of the need to supply a "universal" leaflet carrier for use with the neoprene balloon external load technique led to a request for [REDACTED] to test (and improve if necessary) the carrier design which has been worked up by the undersigned. This requirement is described in the Memorandum for the Record dated 8 January 1958, subject: Telephone Conversation with [REDACTED] on Universal Carrier for J-100 External Load. [REDACTED] proposal for \$2,256.01 to meet this requirement is attached.
- (c) [REDACTED] has done work with their own funds on an inexpensive demand ballast system. They inquired as to our interest in it and the undersigned replied that if they felt that they had a good device that they could submit a proposal for our consideration. A proposal in the amount of \$2,429.06 for this purpose is attached.

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3. It is suggested that all three tasks be undertaken; the first because it stems from a firm requirement; the second because it will yeild a versatile capability which can meet the needs of most every J-100 leafleting situation; the third because it is already in an advanced developmental stage and represents an excellent opportunity to come up with a cheap demand ballast system. It is unlikely that this demand ballast system will be as inexpensive as the present card dropping intermittent ballast system that has furnished for the Pillow Balloon system; 25X1 however there may be offsetting advantages to be realized (such as lower ballast consumption allowing larger payloads to be flown or longer durations to be attained) which will justify its use in many situations.

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